Wendy Phillips

Alphabets and Numbers

for all knitting machines

Alphabets and Numbers

The alphabets and numbers in this book can be used by all machine knitters. Owners of electronic machines will, of course, find the task of knitting a long name easier than owners of punchcard machines; however even if you own a very basic machine, with no patterning facilities, there is nothing to prevent you producing equally attractive designs by hand selection of the appropriate needles. The samples in this book were knitted on a standard gauge machine, chunky machines will obviously produce larger designs.

This book will enable you to decorate your garments with initials, names and slogans of your choice. Make them small and discreet, big and bright, you can even add pictures for fun and extra impact. Knit them as motifs or continuous repeat patterns, positioned centrally, round welts or down sleeves, the possibilities are endless.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

A sample of all alphabets and numbers in the book can be found on the front cover. With this varied selection it should be possible to find a style which will suit the particular garment you wish to make, for example the outline style on pages 4, 5 and 6 is particularly suitable for sportswear.

LONG FLOATS

To overcome the problem of long floats, (less troublesome when using capitals), place the centre of each offending float on to the needle directly above so that it will be knitted in on the following row.

FINISHED SIZES

For an idea of the finished sizes of letters and numbers when knitted in 4 ply on a standard gauge machine please refer to the information given on each page.

SPACING

When knitting a word you should leave a space of one or two stitches between each letter. This is not a strict rule however and there are times when you must use your own judgement. Notice, for example, the word SAVE on the back cover. A space of one stitch has been left between S and A and also between V and E whereas, because of their shape, A and V overlap each other. By planning your words on the graph paper provided you will be able to see how they will appear once knitted and adjust them accordingly.

USING THE GRAPH PAPER

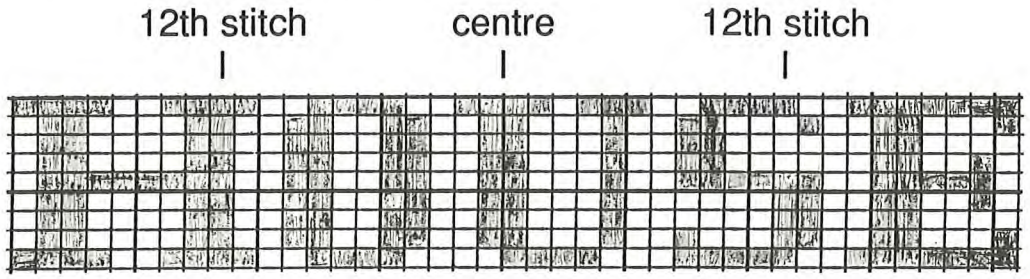
Use the graph paper to plan your design. The scale of the grid is such that it will give you an approximate idea of the finished size when knitted in 4 ply on a standard gauge machine.

USING THE TRACING PAPER

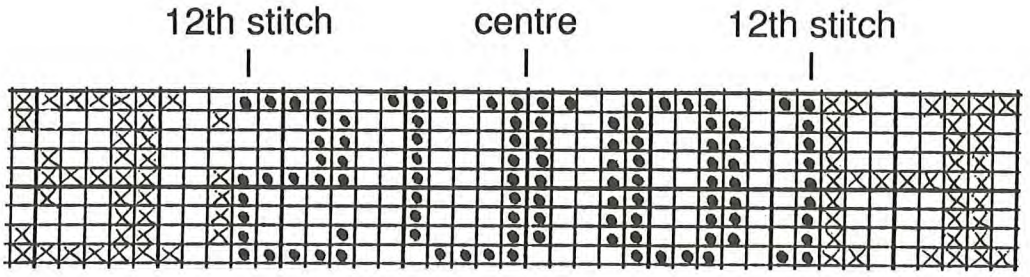
By tracing your design from the graph paper and then turning the tracing paper over you will be able to view your design from the reverse side.

KNITTING A WORD WHICH WILL NOT FIT ON YOUR PUNCHCARD

Using a pencil block in your word on the graph paper in the style you have chosen. Mark a central point. Now mark the extent of your punchcard on each side of this (my design is for a 24 stitch card so the 12th stitch on each side is marked).



Lay the tracing paper over the word matching the two grids. Using a pencil transfer the word to the tracing paper putting dots in the squares which represent the area covered by your punchcard and crosses in the squares which will overhang the card on each side. Turn the tracing paper over.

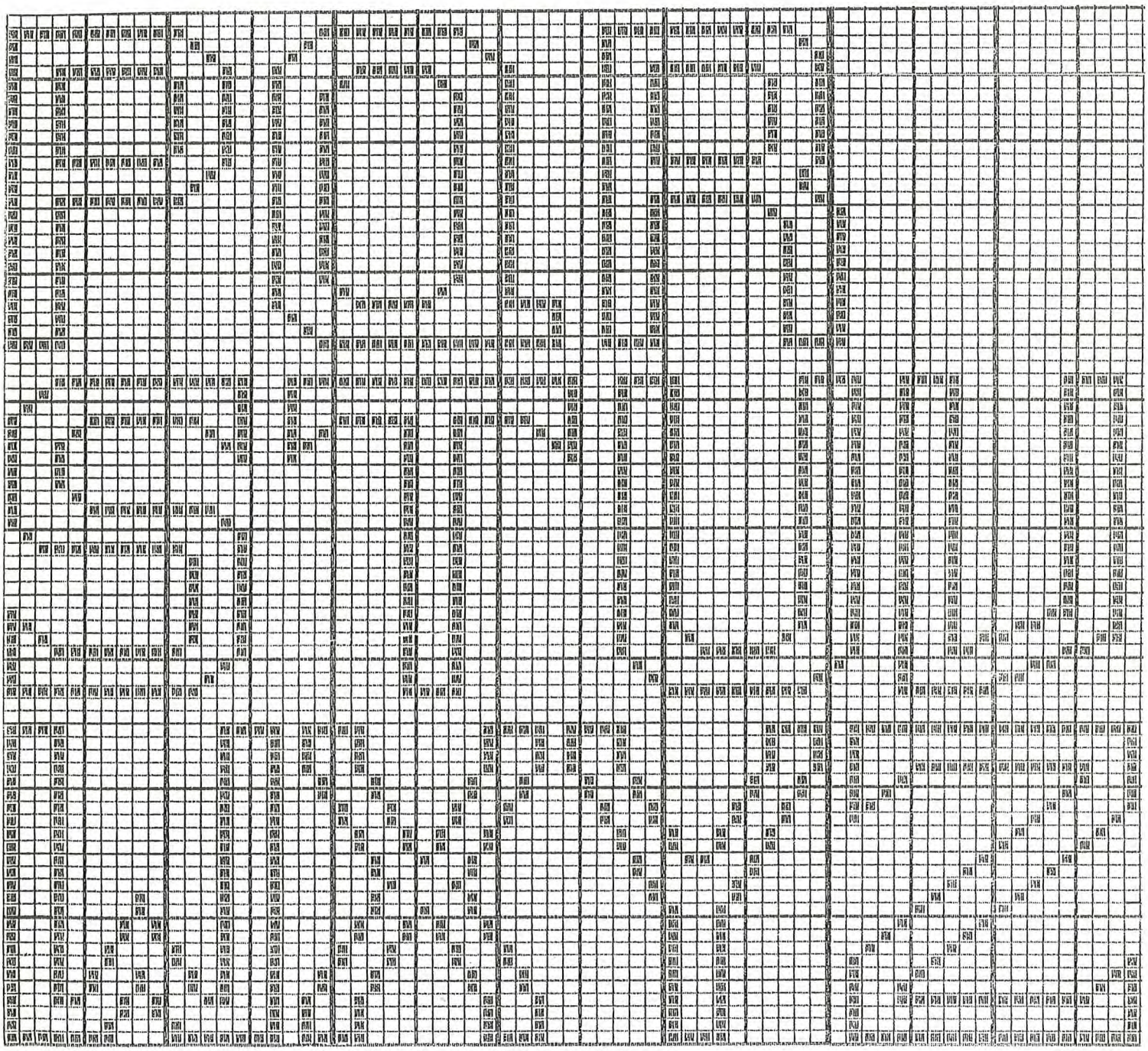


The dots represent the holes you will punch in your card and the crosses represent the needles that must be hand selected on each row. Work from this side of the paper when knitting.

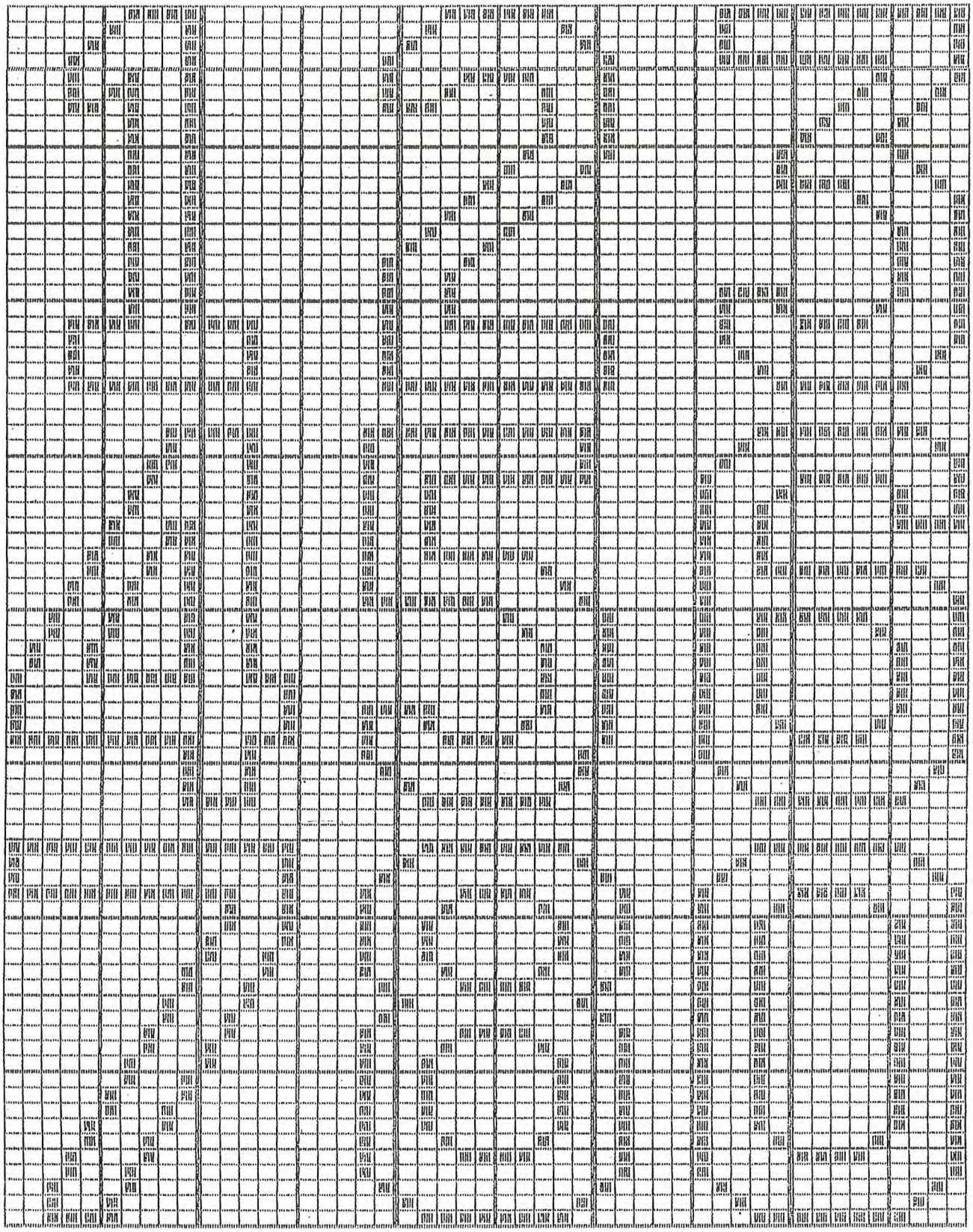
The following items are available by writing to :
Wendy Phillips, P.O. Box 5, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 3AN.

Design-it-Yourself Pad containing 25 single sheets of graph paper (the same size and scale as page 14) printed both sides. **£2.50** inc. p &p.
5 Sheets Tracing Paper - folded as centre pages and printed with grid to match graph paper above. **£1.25** inc. p & p.
Sideways Style - 32 page book containing adult sideways knit sweater pattern in 4 sizes together with 50 folk and ethnic designs. (Use garment pattern to knit sideways your words and slogans). **£3.99** inc. p & p.

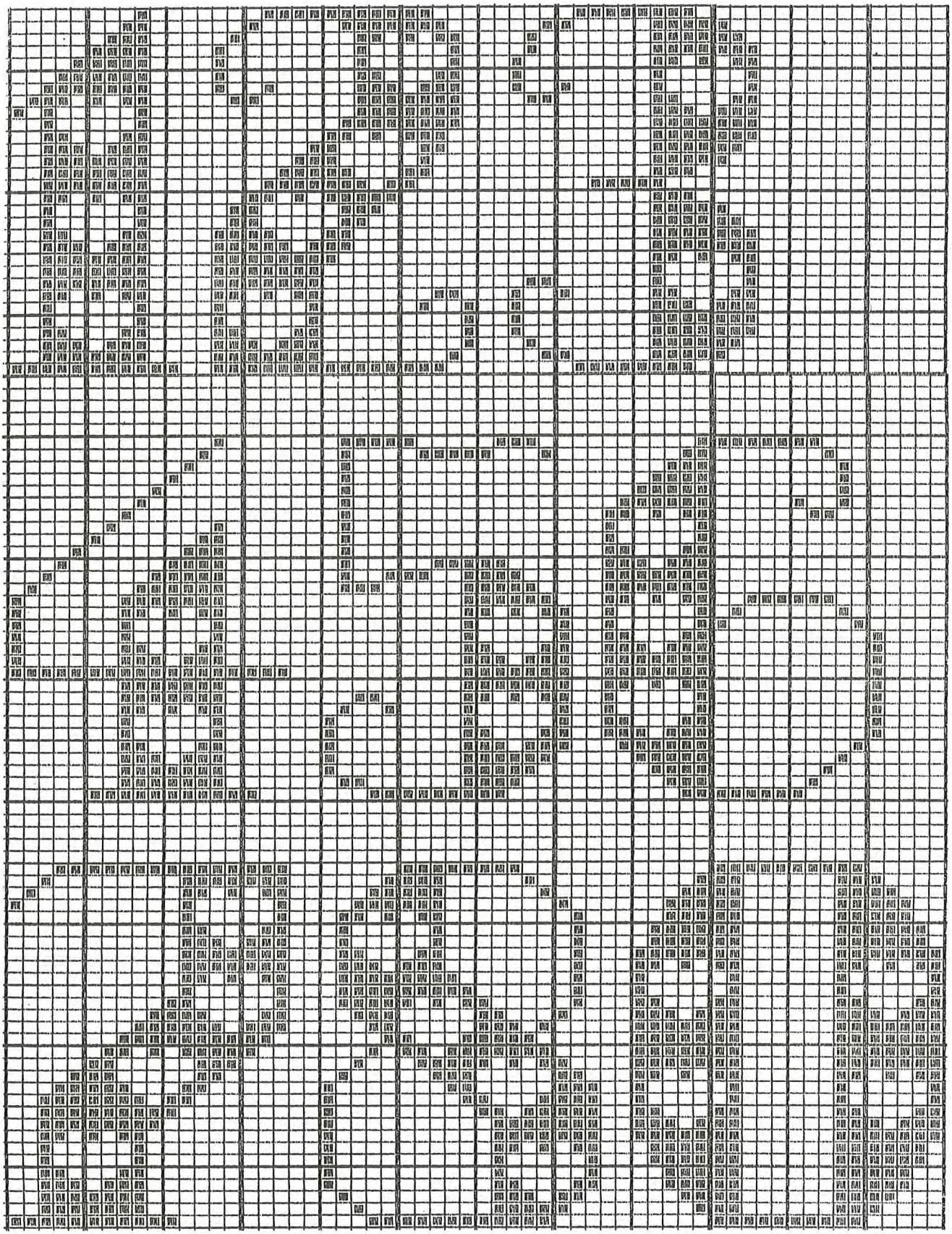
This 'outline' style (approx. ht. 7 cms.) is very versatile and particularly suitable for sportswear. Use Swiss darning as a method of infilling (see the number 1 on the front cover) or knit over a striped background (see back cover). If your machine automatically doubles the height and width of a subject then this is another option open to you.



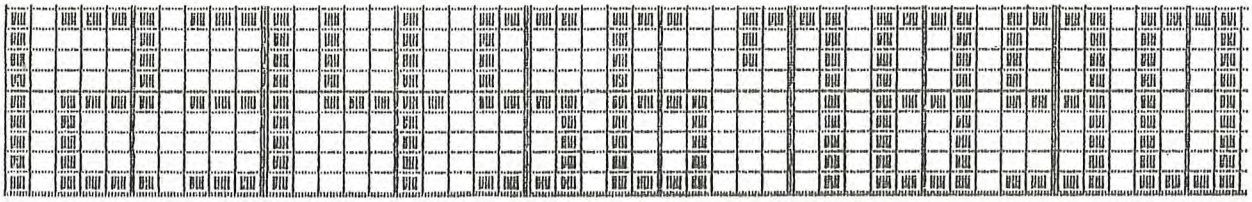
For number 9 use 6 upside down. (Approx. ht. 7 cms.)



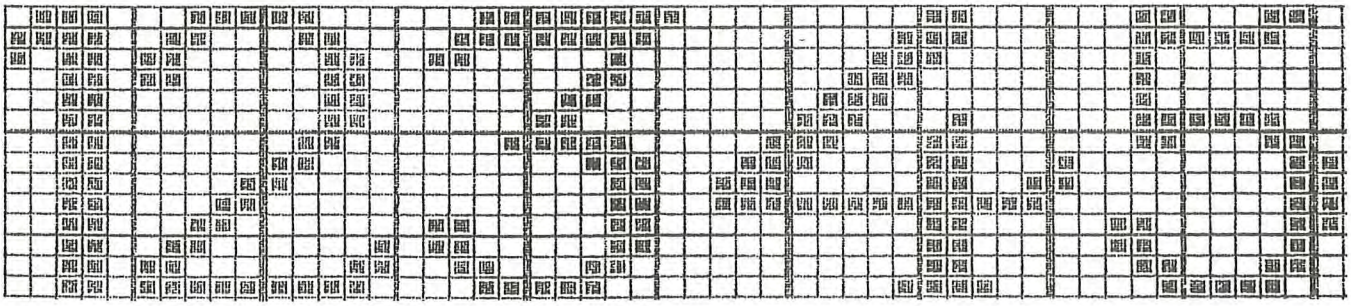
These large numbers (approx. ht. 8 cms) with hearts as decoration can be made even more colourful by Swiss darning the hearts with a contrasting colour as shown on the front cover. For number 9 use 6 upside down.

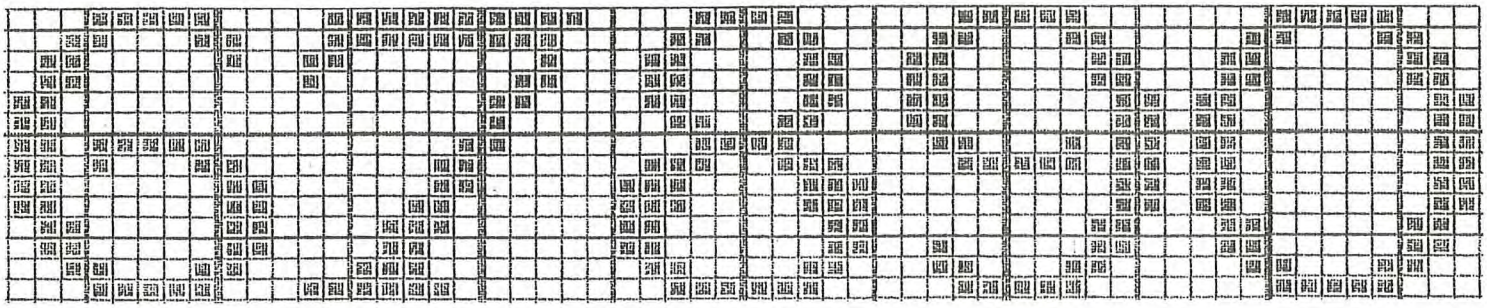


(Approx. ht. 2.5 cms.)

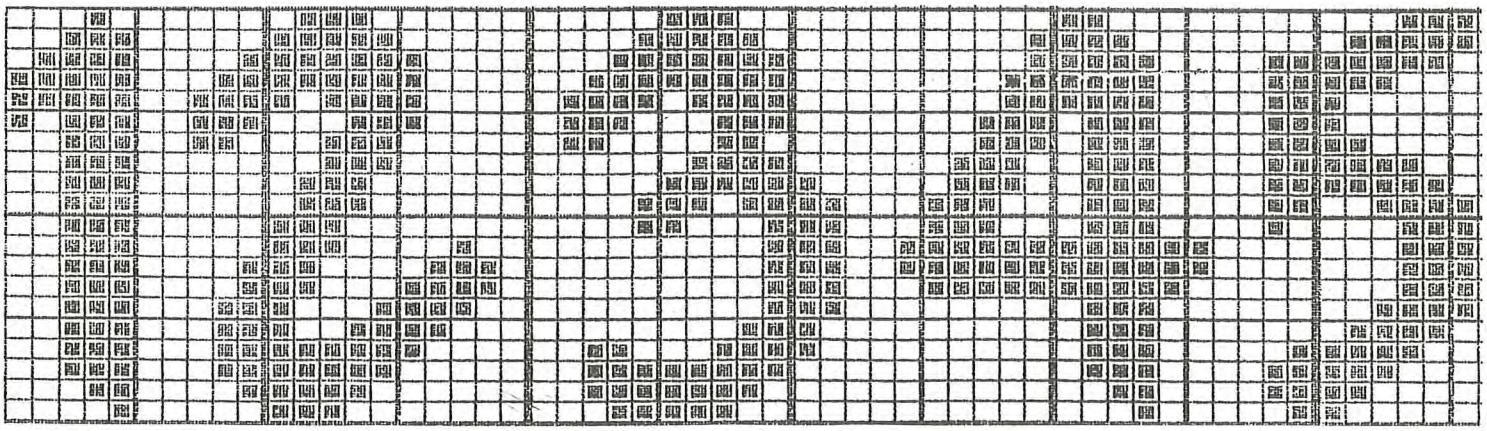


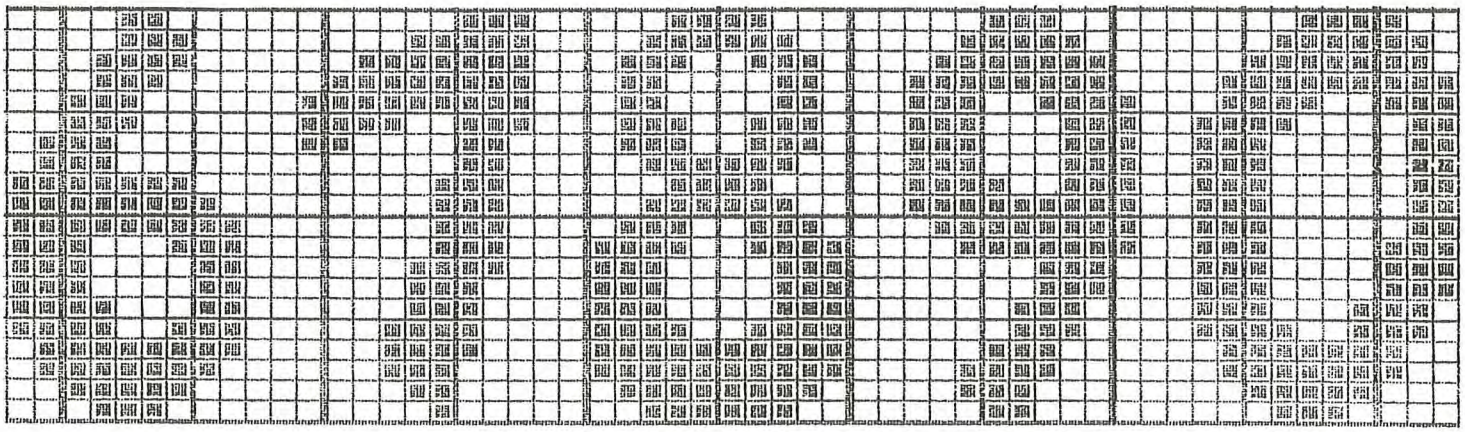
These numbers can be knitted with the 'Old English' style alphabet on page 24.
(Approx. ht. 4 cms.)



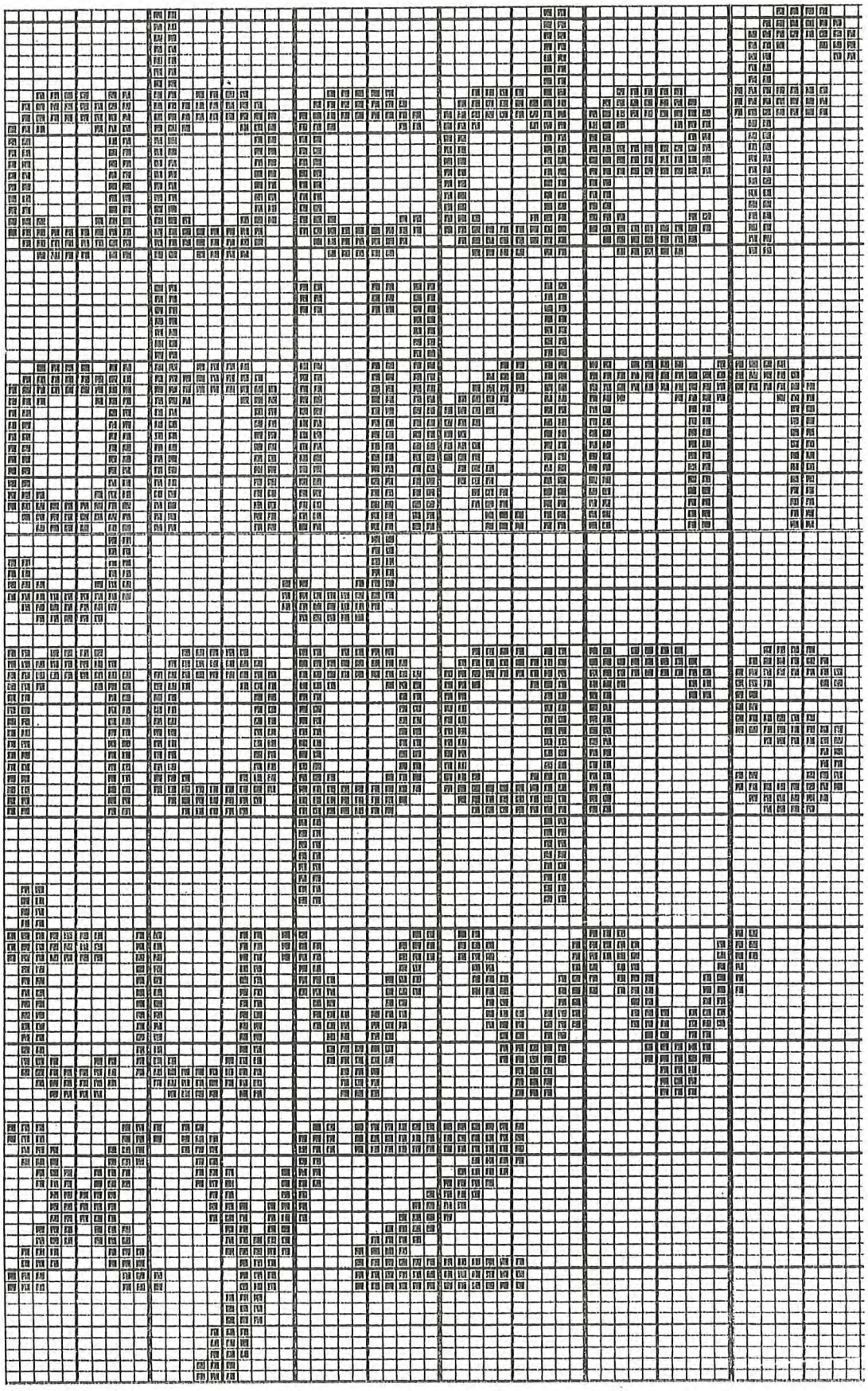


(Approx. ht. 5.5 cms.)

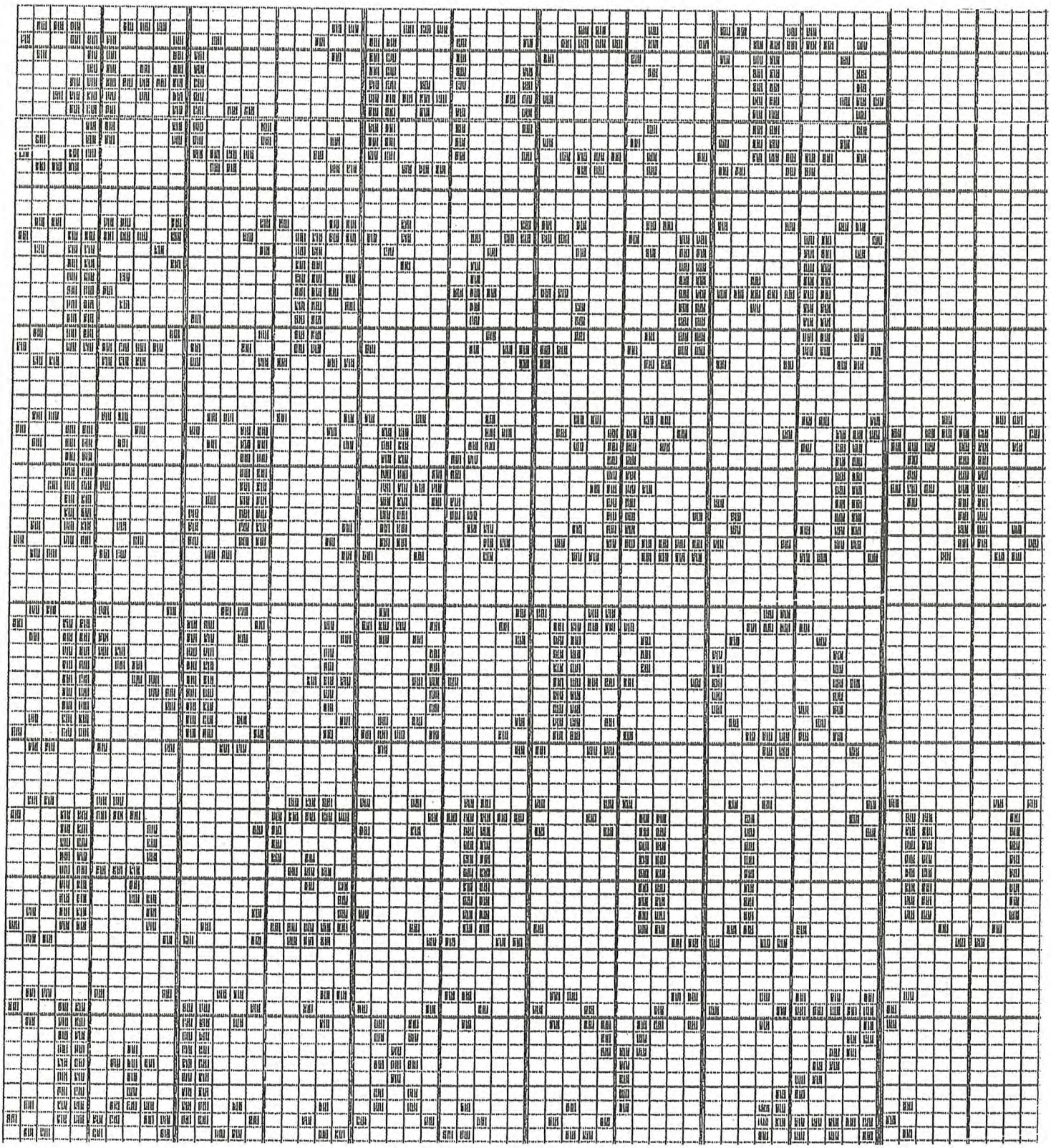




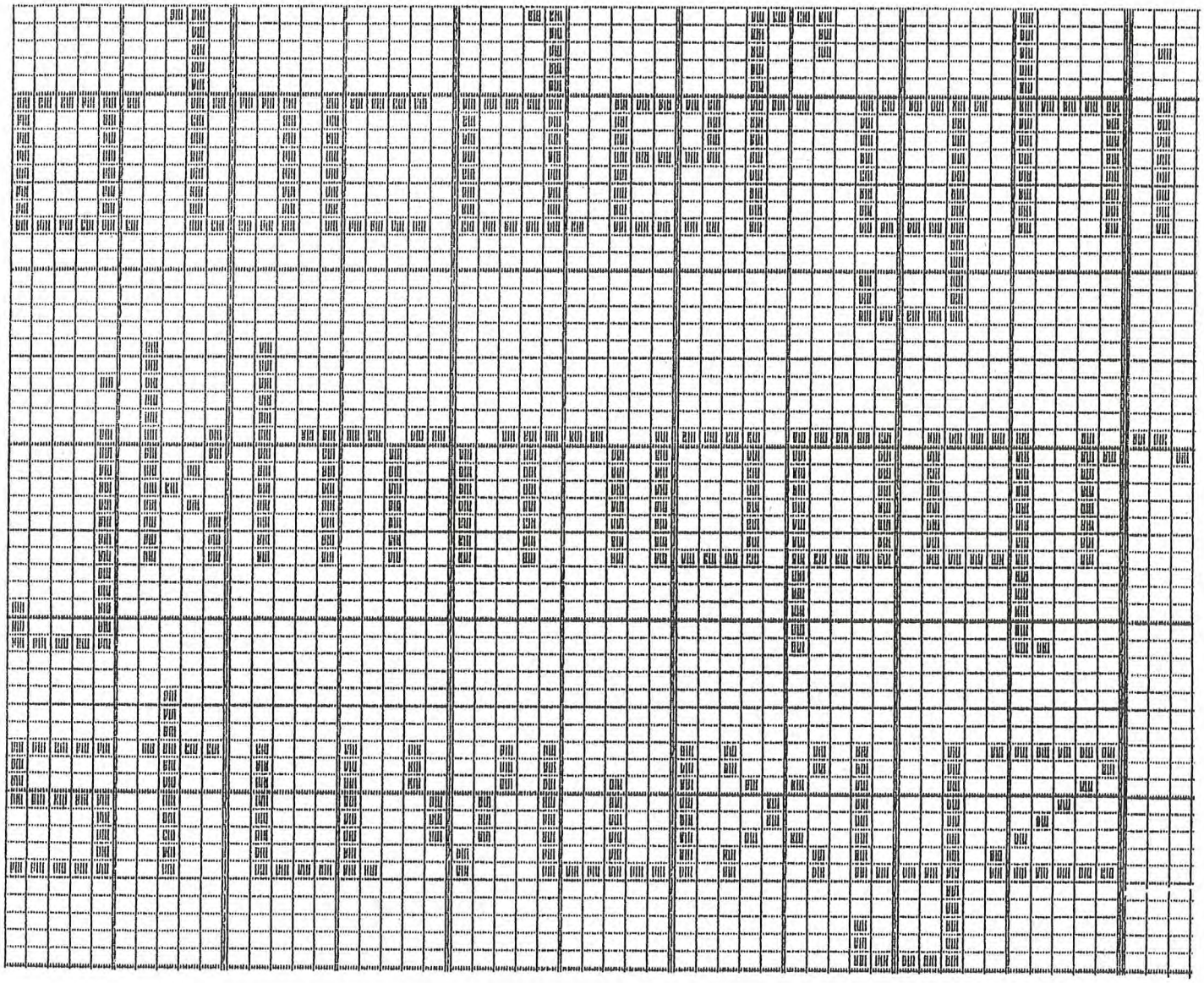
(Small letters approx. ht. 4 cms., tall letters 6 cms.)
For capital letters use the outline alphabet on pages 4 and 5; the letters can be blocked in to match those on this page.



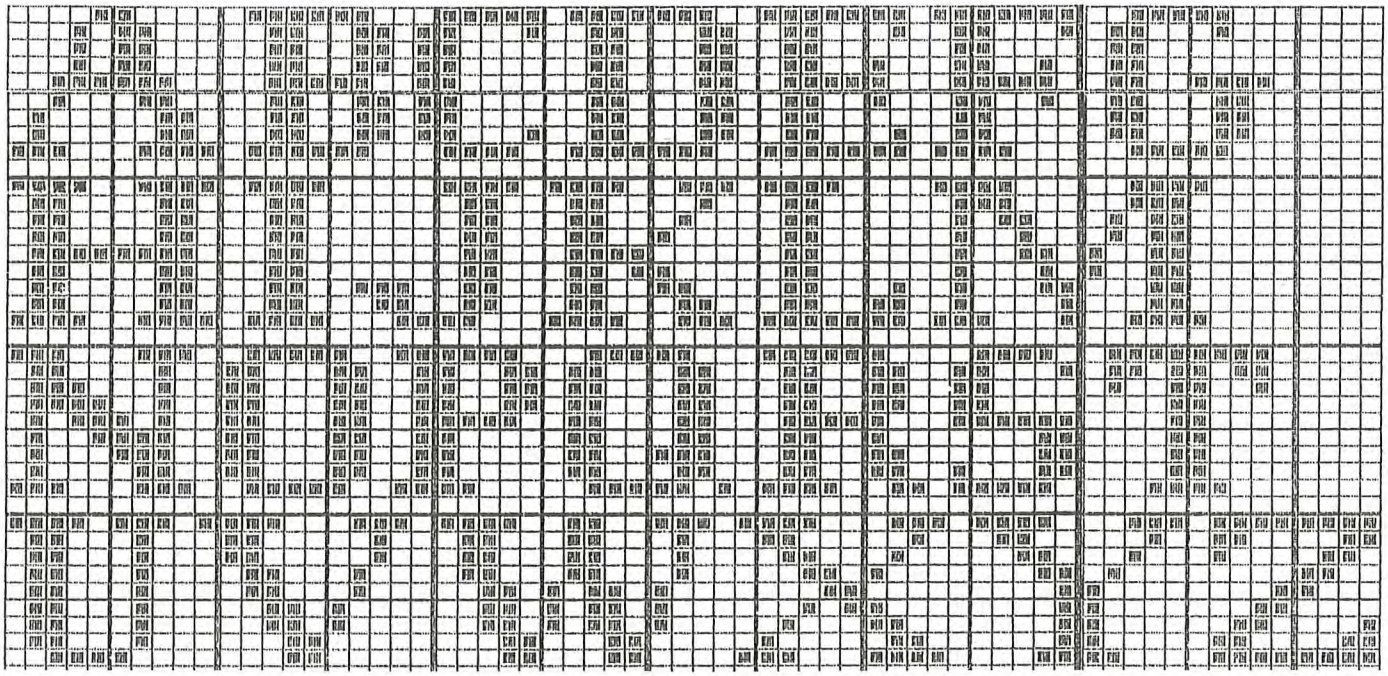
This alphabet was inspired by an embroidered sampler (approx ht. 3 cms.)



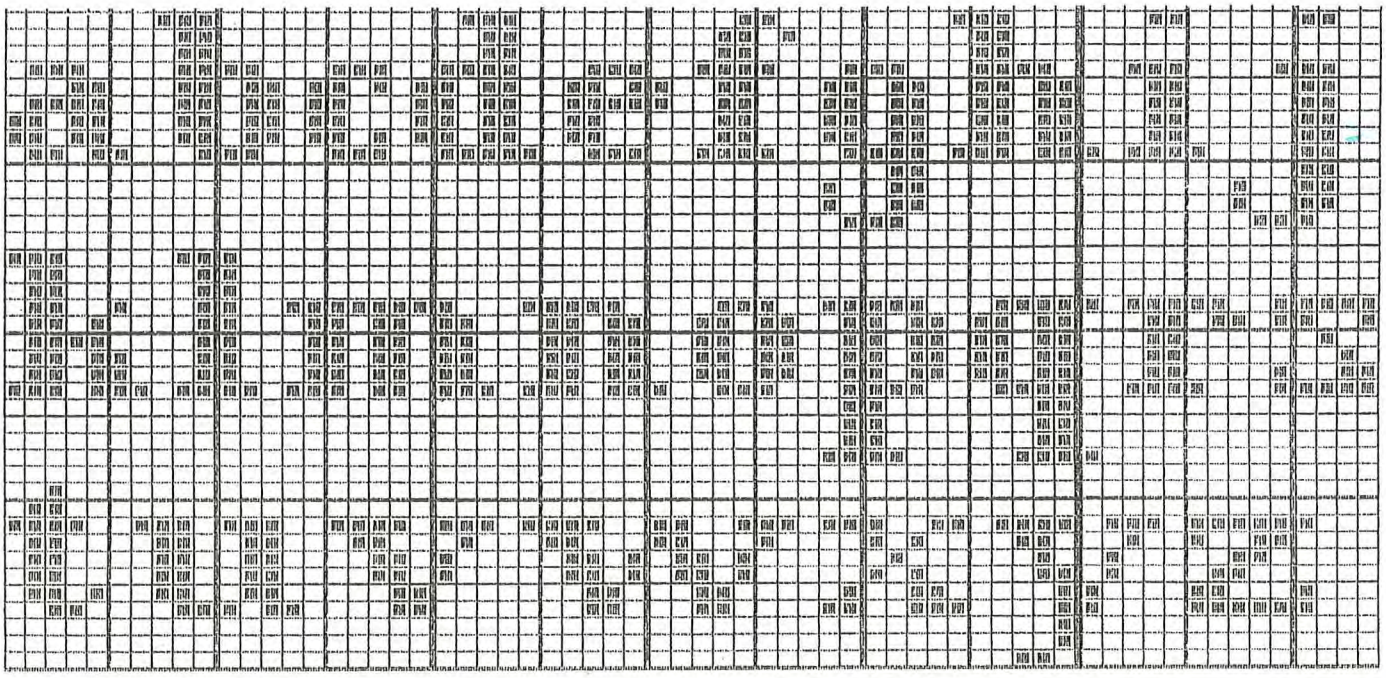
(Small letters approx. ht. 2 cms., tall letters 3.5 cms.)



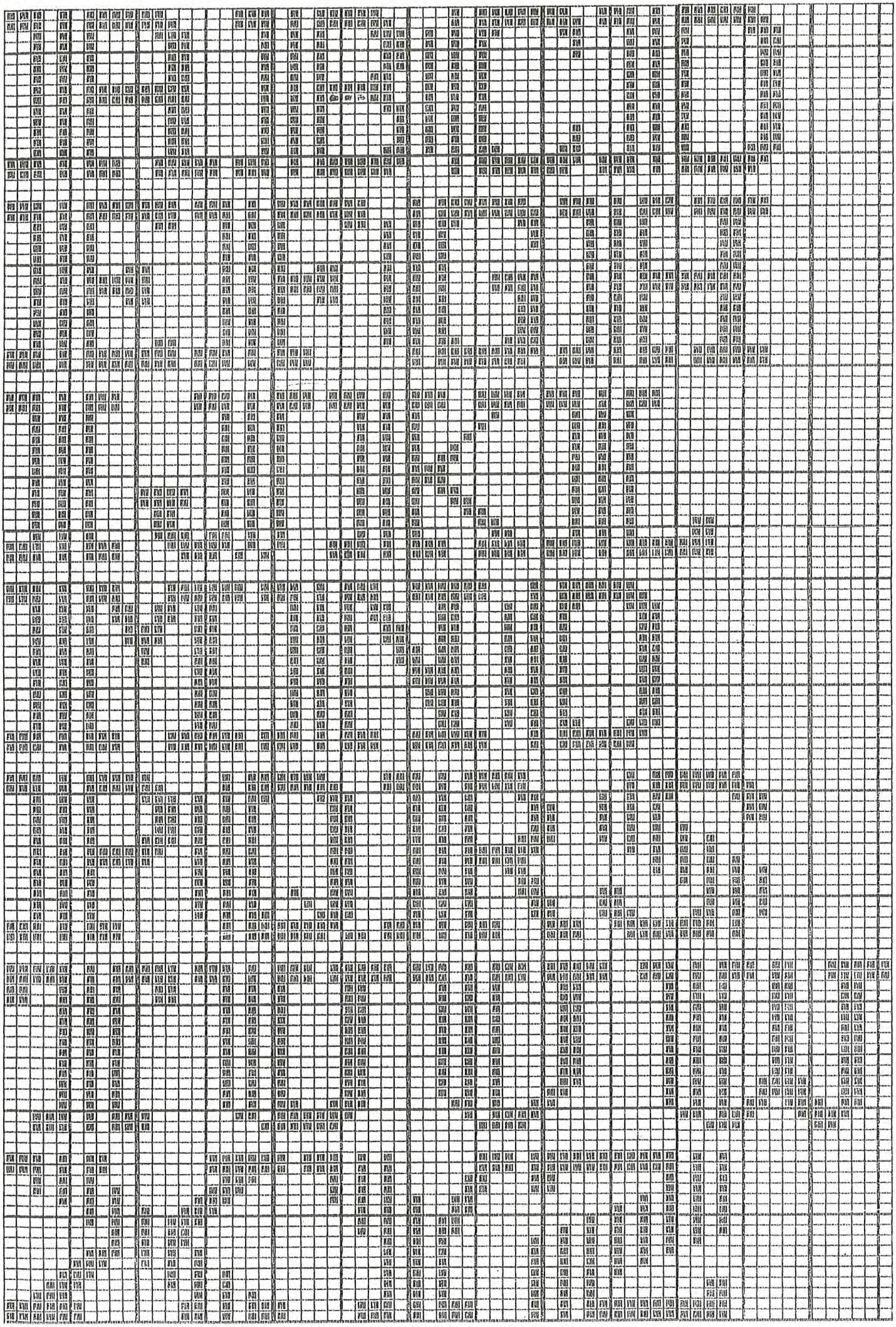
(Approx. ht. 2.5 cms.)

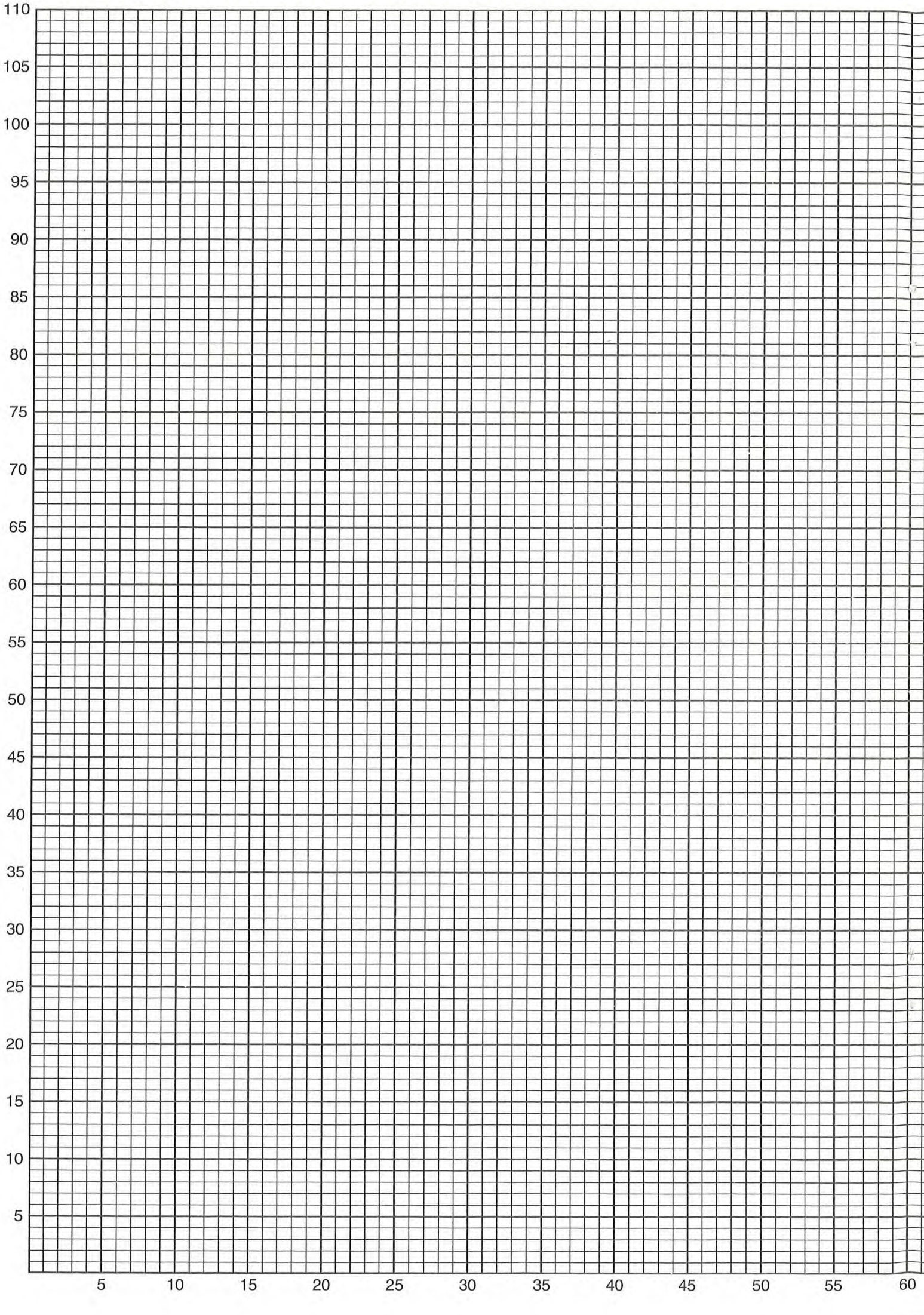


(Small letters approx. ht. 1.5 cms., tall letters 2.5 cms.)



(Approx. ht. 4.5 cms.)

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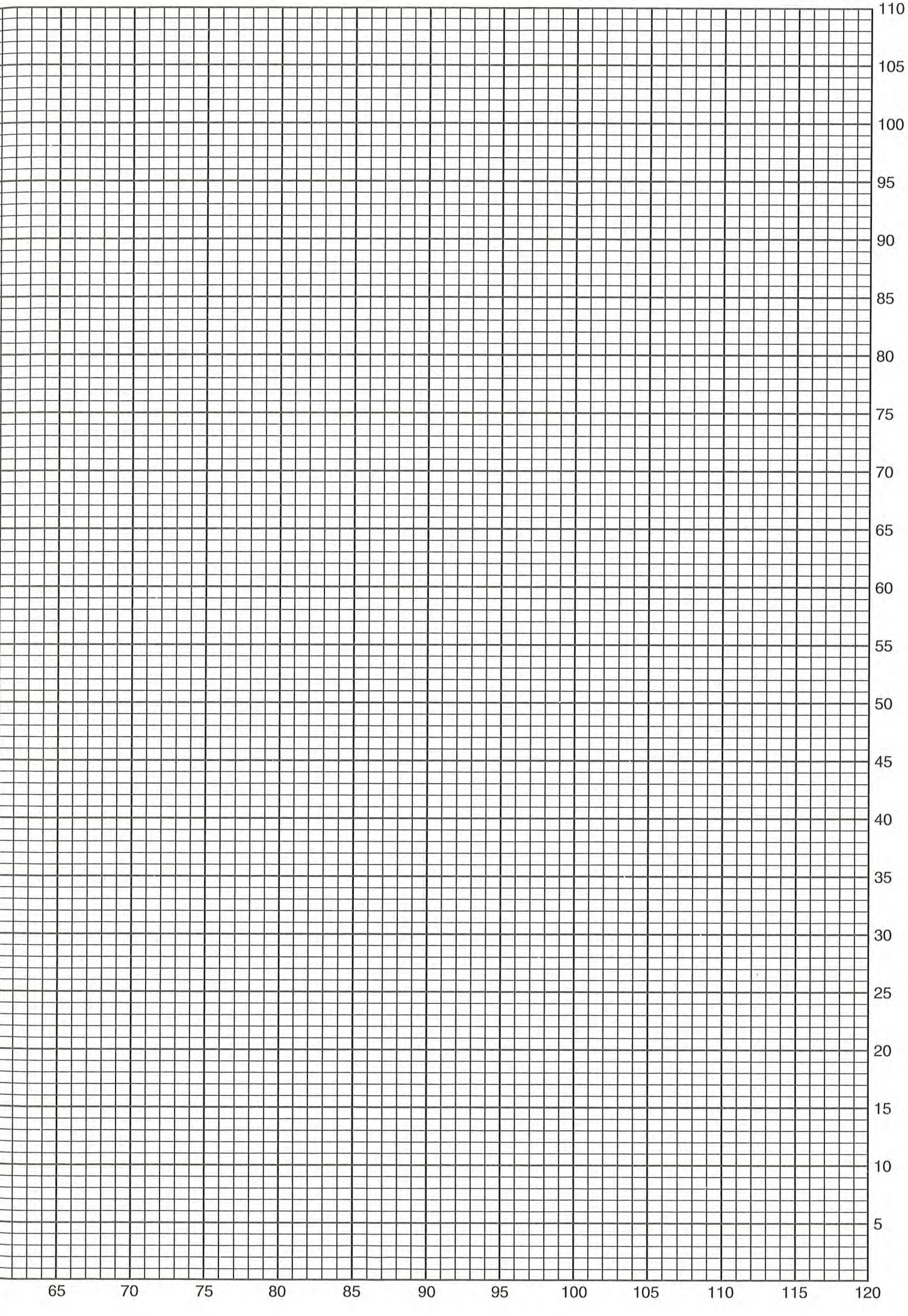
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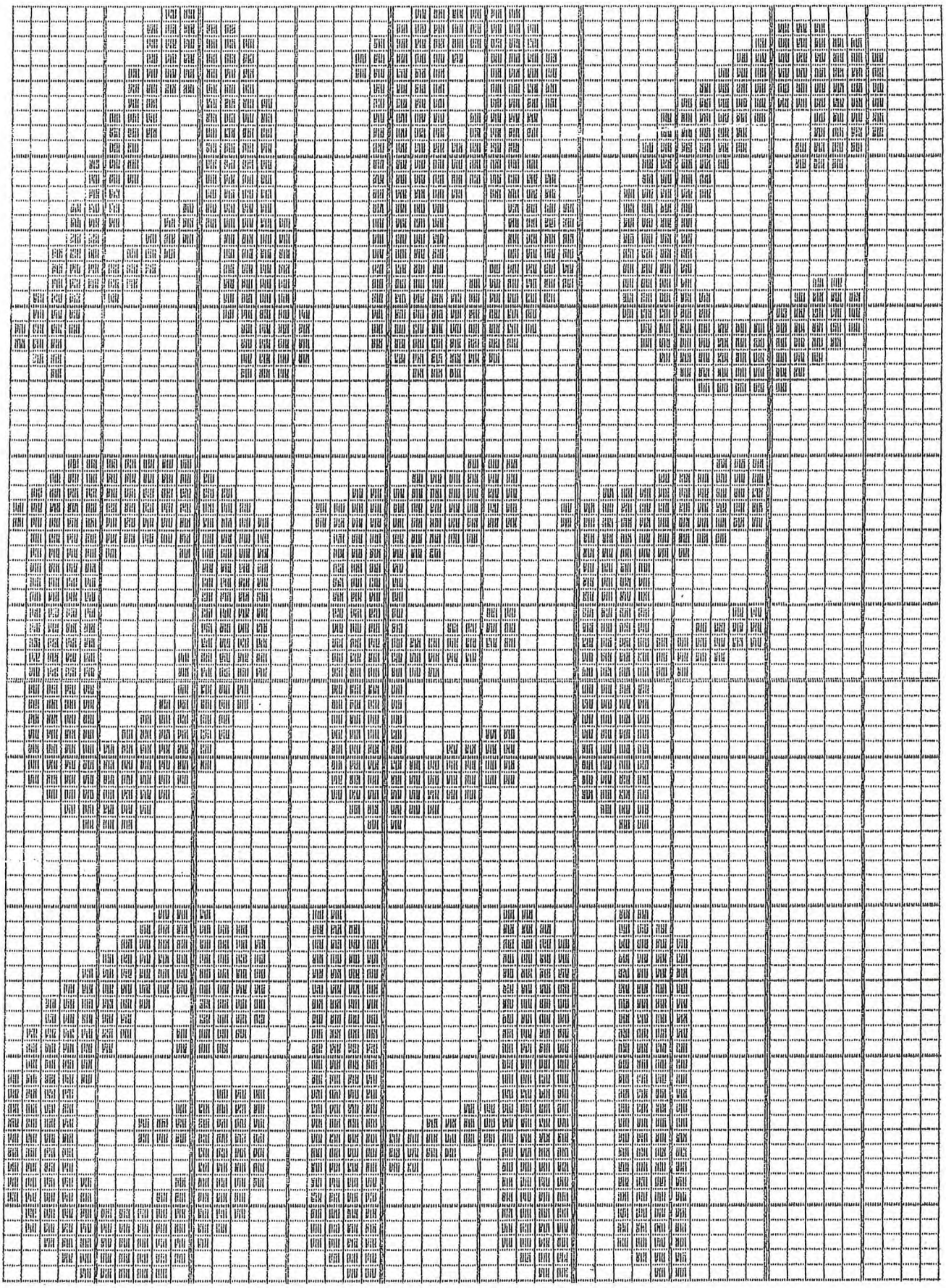
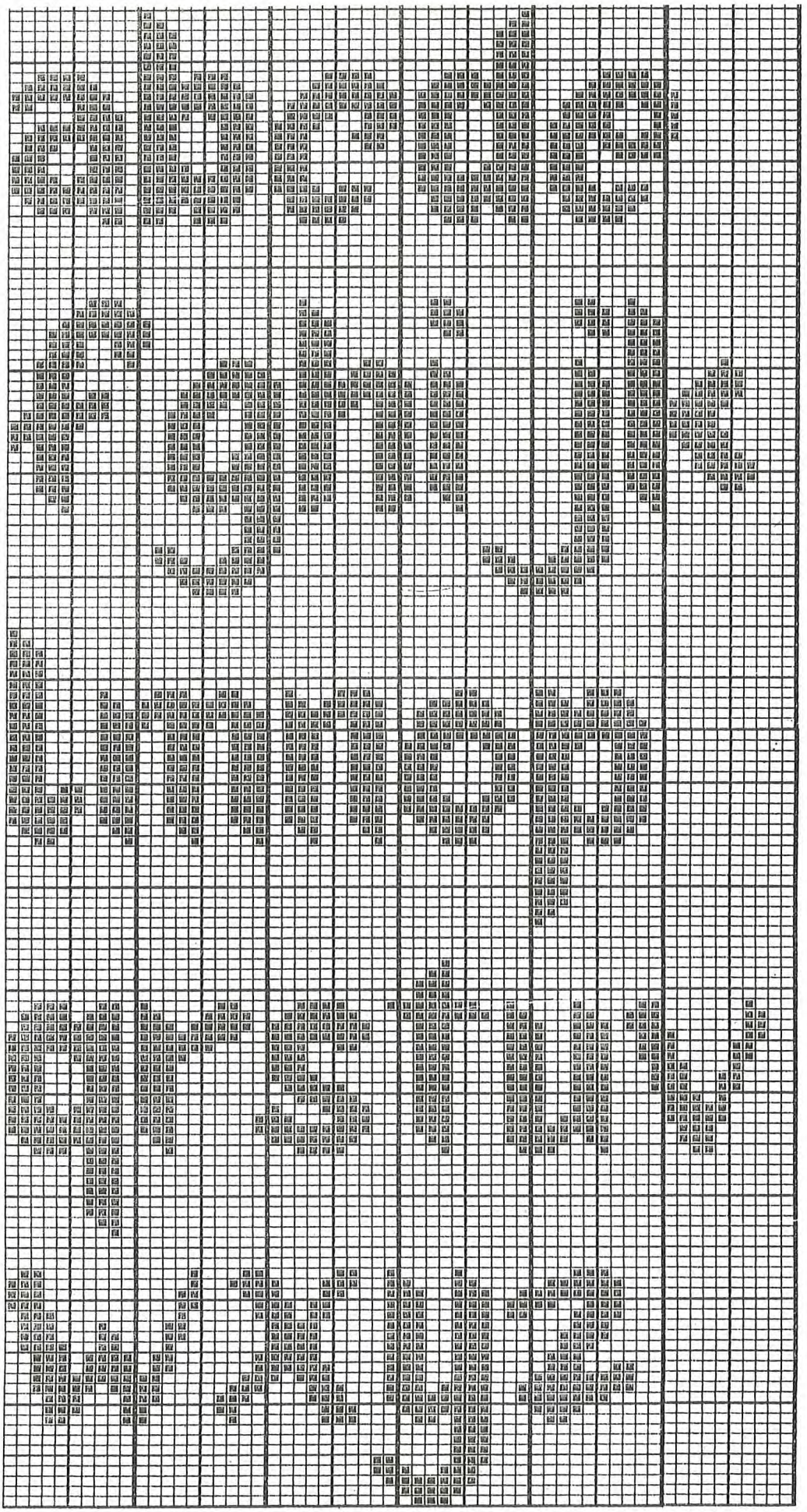
(Approx. ht. 7 cms.)



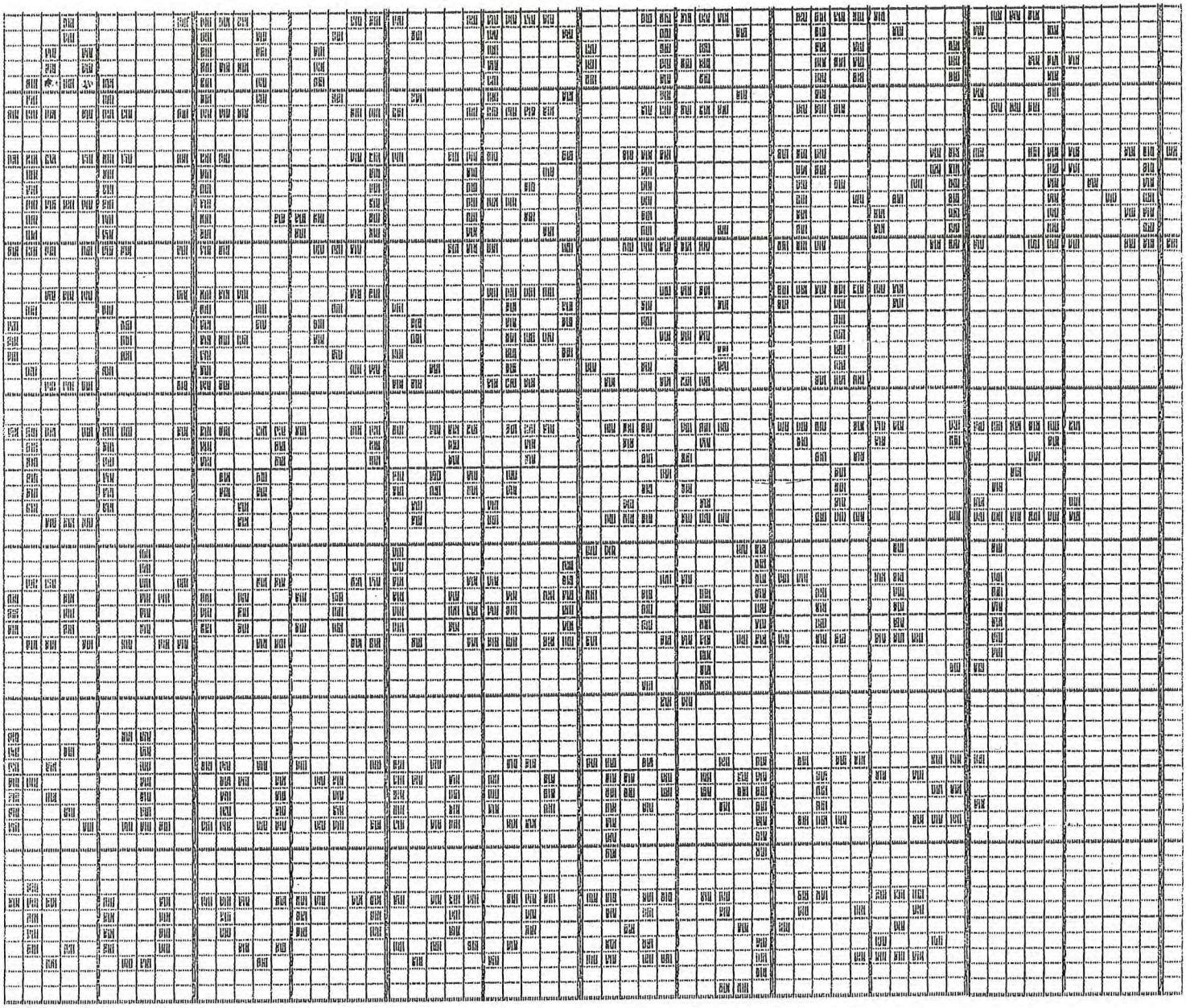
(Small letters approx. ht. 4 cms., tall letters 6 cms.)



‘Old English’ style (approx. ht. 4 cms.)

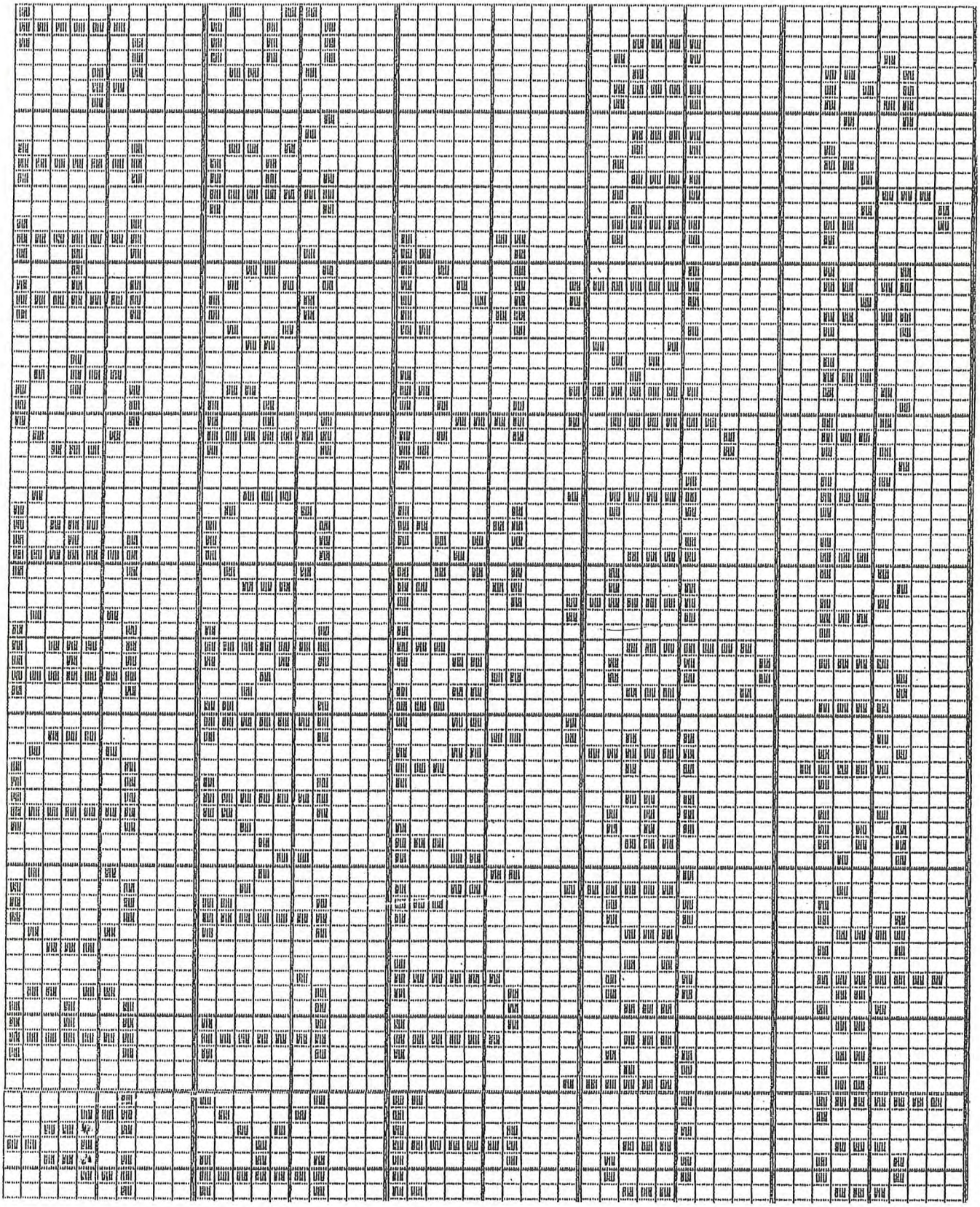
‘Old English’ style (approx. ht. 2.5 cms.)

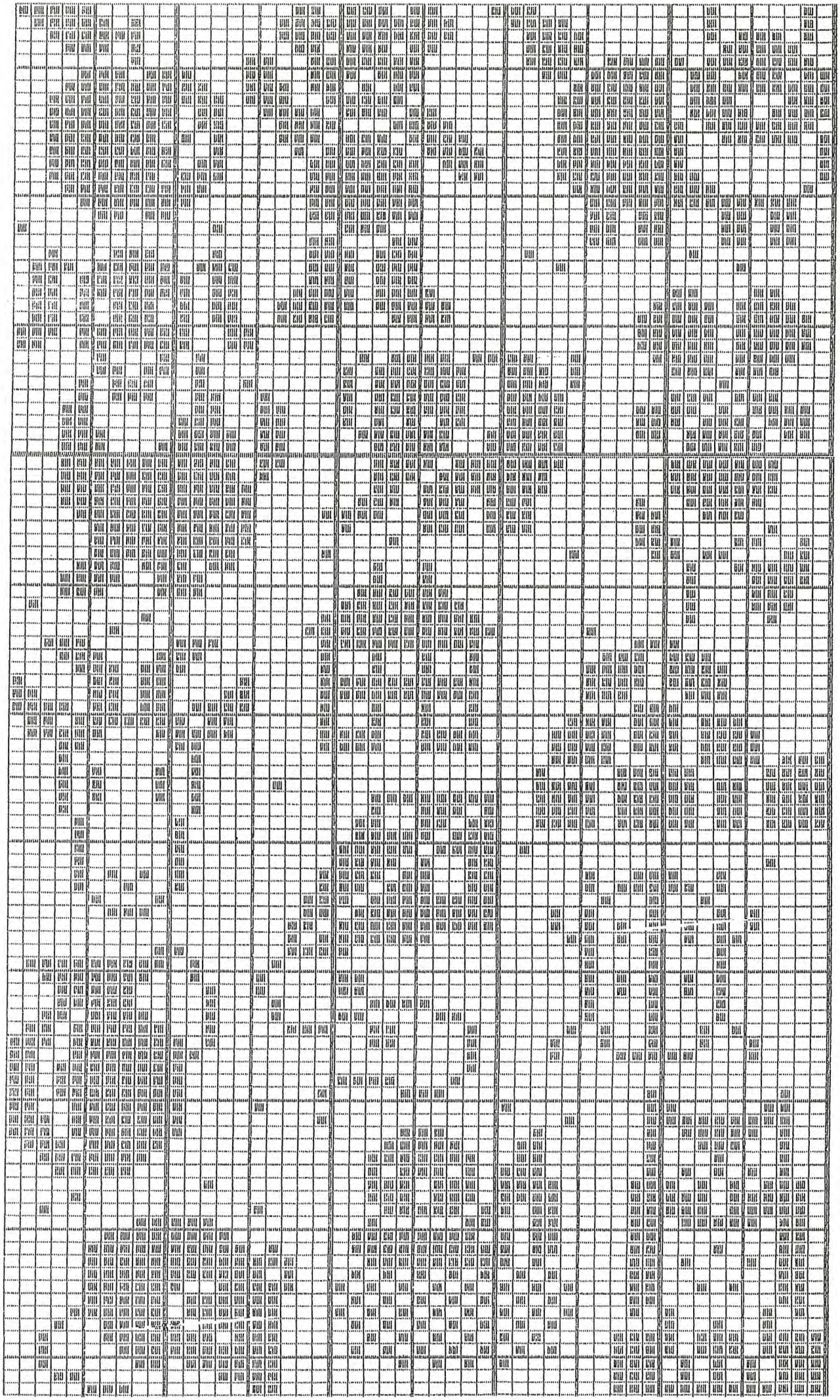
(Capitals and tall letters approx. ht. 2 cms., small letters 1 cm.)



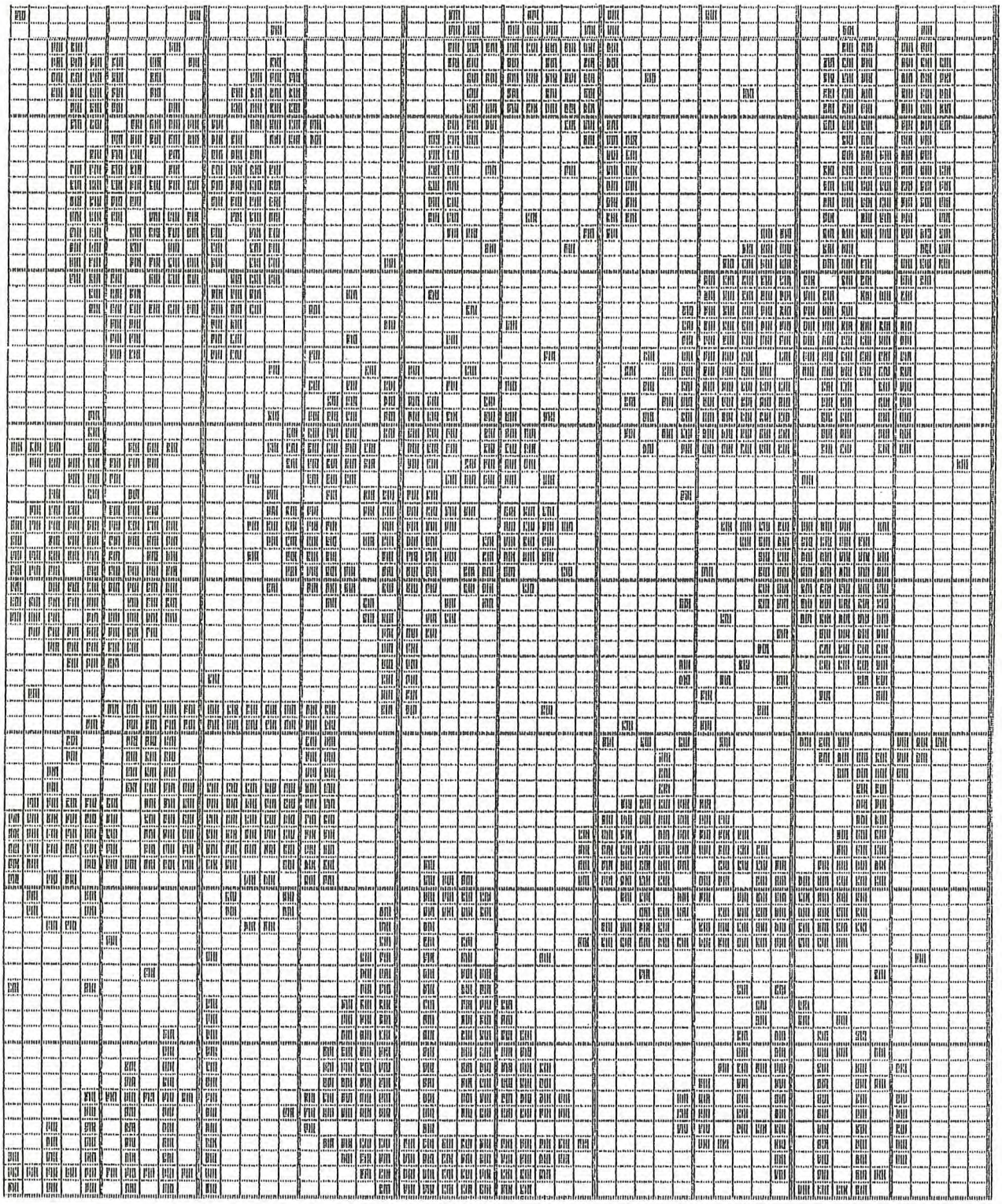
The alphabets above and on the facing page are identical except the ones opposite are knitted sideways. You will notice that turning letters on their sides has the effect of making them taller and narrower. In the bottom right hand corner of the front cover you can see samples of both types illustrated. You can in fact knit any of the alphabets or numbers sideways and indeed on a sideways knitted sweater this will give you the opportunity to write several words or even sentences across the front of a garment. For punchcard machines join enough punchcards together to give you the number of rows required for patterning across the front of the sweater. (Information about sideways knitted sweater pattern on page 3).

(Capitals and tall letters approx. ht. 2.5 cms. small letters 1.5 cms.)

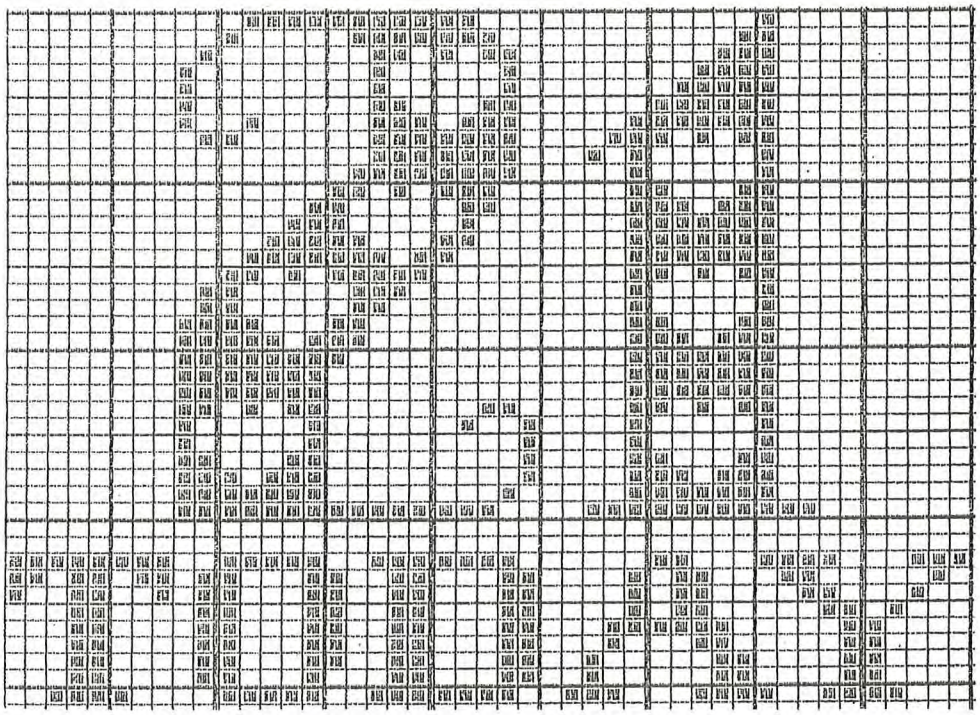


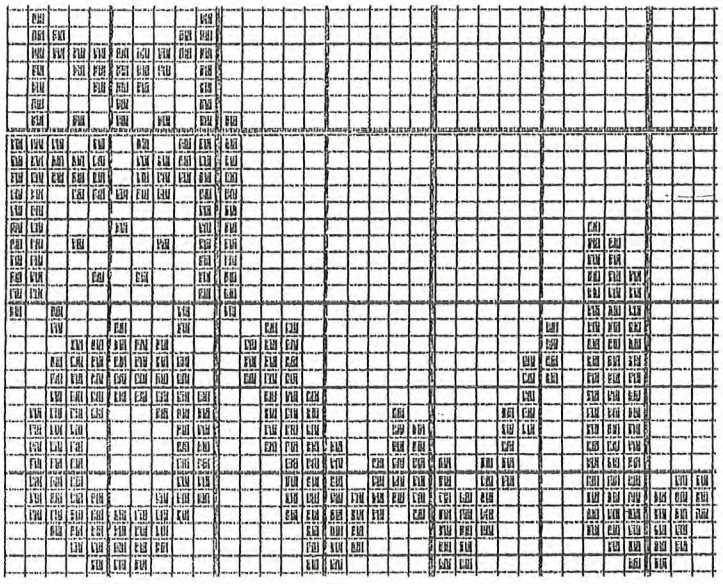


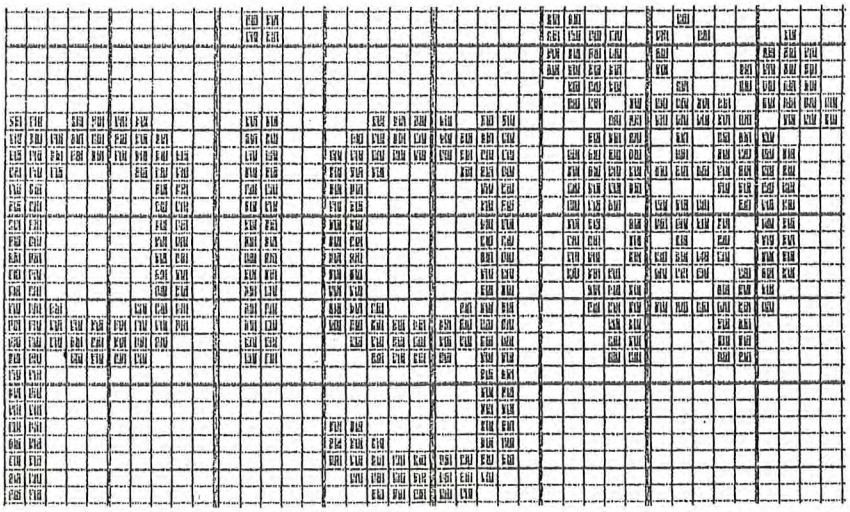
26 pictures (illustrated on the back cover) one for each of the 26 letters of the alphabet. Try combining with the alphabet on page 9 or 23.
Single float shortening stitches have been put in between the pictures so that knitters with electronic machines can produce a 50 stitch wide, 185 row design. When using these pictures individually, as illustrated overleaf, the float shortening stitches are not necessary and should be omitted.

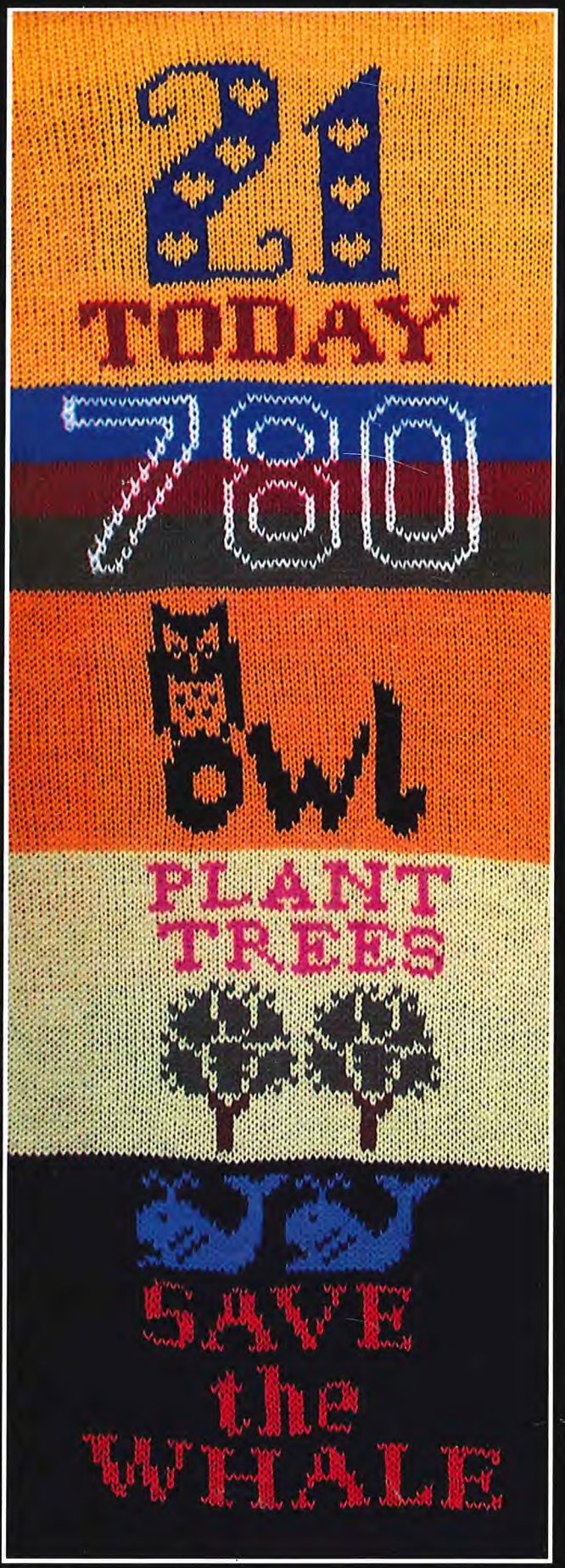


Graphs for the designs illustrated on the back cover









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